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Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGRE-00 OES-07 AID-05 L-03
PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00
/061 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA/JANNUNZIATA
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----------093117 072216Z /73
O R 072148Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
INFO SECDEF WASHDC/ISA
CSAF/XOORA/PREV/SAFIA
CINCUSAFE/DEM
HQ MAC SCOTT AFB GA/DOOM
COMUSFORAZ LAJES FIELD AZORES
355TAS RICKENBACKER AFB OH/SPRAY
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

UNCLAS STATE 158065

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, PO

SUBJECT: JAPANESE BEETLE CONTROL

REF: (A) LISBON 5144, (B) COMUSFORAZ DTG 021030Z JUL 77,
(C) LISBON 5126

1. AIR FORCE ADVISES TIME HAS BECOME CRITICALLY IMPORTANT
IF USAF EFFORTS TO CONTROL JAPANESE BEETLE BY AERIAL SPRAY
ARE TO BE EFFECTIVE. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE INCI-
DENCE OF BEETLES MAY HAVE REACHED A PEAK AT LAJES. IF
ADDITIONAL COUNTS NOW UNDERWAY CONFIRM THIS, SPRAYING WILL
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HAVE TO BE INITIATED WITHIN A VERY FEW DAYS IN ORDER TO
ACHIEVE THE DESIRED OUTCOME. THE BEETLE POPULATION CAN BE
EXPECTED TO DROP OFF RAPIDLY WITHIN BRIEF PERIOD OF TIME
AFTER PEAK IS REACHED AND, EGGS HAVING BEEN LAID, AERIAL
SPRAYING WOULD NOT AGAIN BE EFFECTIVE UNTIL APPROXIMATELY
THIS TIME NEXT YEAR. ADDITIONALLY, IT WILL TAKE SEVERAL
DAYS TO CONFIGURE THE AIRCRAFT FOR SPRAY MISSIONS FOLLOWING

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THEIR ARRIVAL AT LAJES.

2. REF C REPORTS THAT PORTUGUESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS ENDORSED SPRAY PROPOSAL. TELECON BETWEEN DOD AND COMUSFORAZ INDICATES COMMAND HAS INITIATED ACTION, AS SUGGESTED BY REF A, THROUGH THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT TO SECURE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT TO

RELIEVE US OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DAMAGES INCURRED AS RESULT OF USAF AERIAL SPRAYING ACTIVITIES.

3. DEFENSE BELIEVES ASSETS SHOULD BE POSITIONED SO THAT MISSION CAN BE INITIATED AS SOON AS PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT ACKNOWLEDGES WAIVER OF USG LIABILITY. ACCORDINGLY, DEFENSE HAS AUTHORIZED USAF TO DEPLOY TWO AERIAL SPRAY AIRCRAFT AND NECESSARY SPRAY MATERIELS AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO LAJES AB ON 8 JULY. THIS WILL PERMIT THE AIRCRAFT TO BE CONFIGURED FOR THE MISSION; HOWEVER, AIR FORCE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED THAT NO AERIAL SPRAYING WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED UNTIL THE WAIVER OF LIABILITY HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE PORTUGUESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, AND EMBASSY LISBON ALSO INDICATES THAT SPRAYING MAY PROCEED. AS TIME IS NOW OF THE ESSENCE, ANY ASSISTANCE EMBASSY CAN LEND IN SECURING THIS WAIVER WILL BE APPRECIATED. VANCE

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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